

## **REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

In response to the Examiner's final Office Action of March 25, 2009 the Applicant respectfully submits the accompanying Amendment of the claims and the below Remarks.

### ***Regarding Amendment***

In the Amendment:

independent claim 1 is amended to omit recitation that each entity shares a validation parameter with "only" its immediately neighbouring entity or entities in the series and to specify that in step (a) that validation parameter is shared between the source entity and an intermediate entity of the plurality of intermediate entities and that the next entity in the series in steps (e) to (g) includes at least another intermediate entity of the plurality of intermediate entities. Support for this amendment can be found at paragraphs [4402]-[4425]; and

dependent claims 2 and 4-25 are unchanged.

It is respectfully submitted that the Amendment does not add any new matter to the present application, nor any new issues the prosecution of the present application.

### ***Regarding 35 USC 112, first paragraph Rejections***

It is respectfully submitted that amended independent claim 1 complies with the written description requirement, as the recitation cited by the Examiner has been omitted.

### ***Regarding 35 USC 102(e) and 103(a) Rejections and Response to Arguments***

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of amended independent claim 1, and claims 2 and 4-25 dependent therefrom, is not disclosed or suggested by Raivisto either taken alone or in view of previously cited Schneier and Wiegley, because amended independent claim 1 recites the plurality of intermediate entities in the body of the claim which distinguishes the claimed invention from Raivisto (and Schneier and Wiegley) since Raivisto does not disclose or suggest using a chain of MDs between the mobile stations, rather just selecting one of the MDs at a time (see col. 4, line 54-col. 5, line 41 and col. 6, lines 31-44).

It is respectfully submitted that all of the Examiner's rejections have been traversed. Accordingly, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Very respectfully,

Applicant/s:



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